



State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, winter is a season of unparalleled beauty and one during which the entire landscape of the Empire State is majestically transformed -- from the shores of Long Island and the Great Lakes to the glistening snow-capped peaks of the Adirondack and Catskill Mountains, winter hails the arrival of unique and scenic changes in our natural environment; and

Whereas, the winter season also offers New Yorkers and visitors to our great State an abundance of cultural events and recreational activities -- from holiday gatherings, seasonal concerts and ice carnivals to opportunities for walking in fresh-fallen snow, skating and skiing the challenging slopes of our State's many premier ski areas; and

Whereas, like all seasons, winter presents New Yorkers with challenges, especially with the onset of severe weather conditions; last winter saw unrelenting lake-effect snows bury parts of Buffalo and Western New York under accumulations of nearly seven feet; it was through the hard work and determination of neighbors helping neighbors, along with the invaluable assistance of hundreds of State and local personnel, that adversity was overcome; the image of communities paralyzed by this natural phenomenon, however, is a distinct reminder that we could face such harsh weather conditions again this winter season; and

Whereas, with winter just over the horizon, now is the time for New Yorkers to take critical actions to prepare for the months ahead; there are some simple, common-sense measures that we can take right now to protect ourselves and our loved ones during the approaching cold weather season: installing smoke and carbon monoxide detectors; inspecting, servicing and cleaning furnaces, fireplaces, woodstoves and chimneys in our homes; and preparing our vehicles for winter driving conditions; and

Whereas, all citizens are encouraged to think ahead and prepare for challenges the upcoming winter season might bring; to help alert our citizens about impending severe conditions, the agencies of the New York State Disaster Preparedness Commission will continue working in partnership with the National Weather Service, local governments, the private sector and volunteer organizations to educate and assist all New Yorkers as they prepare for the months ahead; by taking preventative measures now, we can all enjoy the pleasures of winter with a greater sense of comfort and safety;

Now, Therefore, I, George E. Pataki, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim November 3-9, 2002 as

WINTER PREPAREDNESS WEEK

in the Empire State.



Given under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State

at the Capitol in the City of Albany this first day of

October in the year two thousand two.

Governor

Secretary to the Governor